GROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Philharmonic Concert. Colosseum.—" Stere of Paris."

Index to Advertisements.

AMUSEMENTS—11th "nage—4th, 5th and 6th columns.
BANKING HOUSES AND BANKERS—10th Page—3d column.
BOARD AND ROOMS—11th Page—4th column.
BOOTS AND SHOUS—5th Page—6th column.
BUSINESS CHARLES—10th Page—4th column.
BUSINESS NOTICES—6th Page—1st comm.
COPARTNERSHIP NOTICES—10th Page—1st column.
DENISTRY—5th Page—6th column.
DENISTRY—5th Page—6th column.
BUSINESS NOTICES—10th Page—3d column.
EUROFRAN ADVERTISEMENTS—10th Page—4th, 5th and 6th columns

6th columns
Fixancial—10th Page—1st and 2d columns.
Fixancial—10th Page—5th column.
Fixancial—11th Page—5th column.
Helr Wanteb—11th Page—6th column.
Houses, Cardinalos, &c.—9th Page—1st column.
Houses, Cardinalos, &c.—9th Page—1st column.
Ics Chean—9th Page—1st column.
Issert cross—8th Page—6th column; 9th Page, 1st column.

UMB.

LEGAL NOTICES-11th Page-3d column.

MARRIE AND SLATE MANTELS-10th Page-3d column.

MARRIAGES AND DEATHS-7th Page-6th column.

MISCELLANEOUS-11th Page-3d column; 12th Page-4th,

5th and 6th column.

5th, and 6th commun.

MUSICAL INSTREMENTS-11th Page-6th column.

NEW PUBLICATIONS-8th Page-3d, 4th, 5th and 6th

celumns.

PROFOSALS—11th Page—4th column.

PROFOSALS—11th Page—1st column;

COUNTRY—11th Page—1st column; AUCTION SALES—
11th Page—1st column; AUCTION SALES—
11th Page—1st column.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES—11th Page—2d and 3d columns.

BALES BY AUCTION—11th Page—3d column.

SAVINGS BANKS—10th Page—3d column.

STEATONS WANTED—MALES—11th Page—5th column;

FEMALES—11th Page—5th and 6th columns.

BPECIAL NOTICES—7th Page—6th column.

STEAMBOATS AND RAILESADS—10th Page—4th, 5th and 6th columns.

6th columns,

STEAMERS, OCEAN-5th Page-6th column.

FRACHERS-9th Page-1st column.

FOLIT-CITY PROPERTY-11th Page-2d column; BROOK-LYN-11th Page-2d column.

WINTER RESORTS-3d Page-4th column.

Business Notices.

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New-Dork Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1876.

TRIPLE SHEET.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Foneign.-Manuel Fernandez, a Cuban agent, was French Senate, made by the Council-General of the

Domestic .- In Congress yesterday the House failed to pass the Universal Amnesty bill by a vote of 182 to 97, not two-thirds; Mr. Blaine tried to get in his amendment, but could not; a discussion took place on preëmption of public lands in the South, without result; Mr. White of Kentucky offered a resolution to cut down all salaries over \$1,500; Mr. Morrison's resolution of inquiry into all expenditures was passed. —— In the State Legislature progress was made on the Masquerade bill; bills were effered to reduce salaries in New-York and Brocklyn. === The number of failures in 1875 was 7,740, the average liabilities being less than last year. State Insurance Superintendent Chapman has resigned. - Thirteen distillers of Chicago, representing the largest houses in the city, pleaded guilty to conspiracy.

CITY AND SUBURBAN .- Plymouth Church pro negotiations were broken off. Mr. Beecher defended the course of his church. - The struck jury panel was exhausted in the smaller Tweed suit, and after challenges only ten jurors were left. The prosecution asks for talesmen. Several Aldermen expressed favorable opinions of Allan Campbell as Commissioner of Public Works, and his confirmation is expected. === A block of planing mills and wood-working shops in Jersey City was burned, with a loss of \$73,500. ____ Gold. 1121a, 1123a, 113, Gold value of the legal-tender dollar at the close, 8812 cents.

THE WEATHER.-The Government report predicts cloudy and cold weather. ___ In this city yesterday the day was cold but generally bright; thermometer, 180, 200, 280.

From the opinions expressed by some of the Aldermen, it appears probable that they will not object to Mr. Campbell as Commissioner of Public Works. Indeed they can hardly afford to add to the mistakes they have made in this matter.

Thirteen of the great distillers of Chicago having pleaded guilty, another victory is scored for Secretary Bristow in his whisky war. Six new indictments at Milwaukee indicate the further progress of the campaign. This is more profitable work than making speeches.

The complications in the business of procuring struck juries in the Tweed suits are making it somewhat ridiculous. By various processes the selection had been whittled down to twelve men, but that exhausted the panel, and when Mr. Field exercised his right of challenging two of the twelve, there remained nothing but the awkward expedient of summoning talesmen. Of course this process will open the way to further objections and delays, gratifying only to the defense.

Rather a dull session of the Massachusetts Legislature is in prospect. As our Boston correspondence indicates, there is great need for retrenchment in State expenditures; the Gov- at the signatures. Their names-ah! their ernor has pointed out the wider leaks; the names! They have a familiar look. No need to State has a heavy debt; but there are few if repeat the list. George E. Spencer of Alabama

have sufficient energy to force it. Whether that the United States Senate and the Alabama the good-natured, easy-going set of gentlemen assembled in the State House fairly represent the spirit of earnest economy that fills the land, may well be doubted.

The Mutual Council business is at a dead lock, and there is little probability now that the body will be convened at all. Whether Patterson of South Carolina, whose boast is the obstacle that Plymouth Church placed in the way of acceptance by Drs. Storrs and Budington was meant for that purpose, there are - but these are enough. If the will perhaps be the new topic of popular de- right-minded men who were so earnestly bate. The Advisory Council has more chance invited should fall in and send delegates to than the Mutual of coming into existence, and less of handling the more interesting questions at issue.

The Amnesty bill failing on a close vote to obtain the requisite two-thirds majority, and Mr. Blaine having made a motion to reconsider, and then withdrawn it, the whole measure is pushed aside. Both sides will breathe easier, while they count their scars and make ready for another contest. Meanwhile the House will have time to consider the Centennial bill, which is of far more practical importance at the present moment.

Some of the suggestions in the annual report of the State Board of Charities are very good; there will be general approval of the proposed mode of dealing with tramps-to make them work if they are physically capable. The part of the report which concerns the pauper children on Randall's Island is more likely to meet divided opinion. The chief points made are that there was bad management on the Island; that the women in charge of the children were of a degraded class; that ophthalmia and other uncleanly diseases were rife. Hence is argued the expediency of the act removing all the children from the Island and distributing them among other charitable institutions. But it does not clearly appear that a reform of the Island management might not have met the need without starting another class of questions less easily set at rest.

THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Unusual importance seems to have been attached to the decision of the Republican National Committee concerning the time and place of the Convention for nominating the candidates for President and Vice-President. The choice of place has been held to be of most importance, but much significance has been given also to the selection of the day. How much there is in all this talk about the effect of the action of the Committee upon the prospects of the several aspirants to the Presidency, it is not easy to say. The managing politicians are sharp-proverbially so-they see, or think they see, a great deal further into the millstone of politics than the average outsider, and possibly they may be right in the estimate they put upon the importance of the Committee's decision. But it is possible too that they are over-sharp; that they see more than actually exists in the situation; that they greatly overestimate the advantages on the one hand and the disadvantages on the other, which the choice of any of the places which were named or the fixing of a particular day might entail. All accounts agree that the chief consideration in the minds of the Committee in making the decision was the effect it would have upon the prospects of certain candidates, and that, though it did not appear in their arguments, was no doubt uppermost in the minds of the gentlemen who presented the claims and the advantages of the several cities which coveted the honor and the profit of having the Convention. Cincinnati having been agreed upon as the place, and the 14th of June as the time, it is claimed that a point sentenced to three years' imprisonment in Hayti.

The Porte was willing to entertain the Austrian scheme of reform. —— It was reported that candidate, and one scored for some Western candidate, though there appears to be some Prince Bismarck and the Vatican were coming to difference of opinion as to the individual. It terms. = Señor Sagasta protested against undue may be Morton, or Bristow, or Washburne, or interference in elections. —— Victor Hugo and Louis Blane were among the nominations for the A. Logan. And we presume there are those who will think it promotes the chances of Gov.

There may be, we say, a good deal in this. We grant that if the Convention were to be held within a week or fortnight, the place of holding it, the influences that might be brought to bear upon it, and the effect of numbers and neighborhood upon the minds of delegates who had not become fixed in their preferences or committed by pledges, would be very likely to sway its action. But more than four months are to intervene before the Convention assembles. Much time must elapse before the first delegates are chosen. Congress is in session, with candidates in each branch and in the Cabinet who are eager to do something to to help themselves or hurt some one else. These men are restless and untested against the churches of Drs. Storrs and Bud- easy. They make Congress so. No one ington taking part in the Mutual Council; and the can tell what sudden and unexpected wisdom they may break out with, or what fatal blunders they may commit. These coming four months are crammed full of explosive possibilities, and with so many self-conscious little people running around and drawing matches or creating friction, no one can tell how soon we may hear a great noise and see the remains of several candidates of great promise in the air. The results of the "great 'debate" just closed-so graphically described by Mr. Morrison, who said, "Whenever they speak we get the best of them ; whenever "we speak they get the best of us"-indicate very clearly the dangers ahead. Neither party can keep still, and neither can move without doing itself damage. A few more 'great debates" would be very likely to thin out the list of candidates. In these four months then there is the possibility of mortality among candidates, and a very strong probability besides of such a crystallization of public sentiment in the several States that the delegates who go to Cincinnati will be impervious to the influences of neighborhood or the clamor of packed galleries and noisy

Hayes of Ohio.

lobbies. The call for the Convention is as smooth and beautiful as the song of a siren, and as enticing as the spider's invitation to the fly to assist at a kettledrum. It recommends that everybody be invited, "without re-"gard to past political differences or previous party difficulties," and talks about promoting friendly feeling and permanent harmony; of "the continued prosecution and 'punishment of all official dishonesty;" of "an 'economical"-not however a "continued" economical-"administration of the Govern-"ment by konest, faithful and capable officers;" of reforms in government, preserving the national credit, and maintaining the common school system. On all these points the call is as wooing as a sucking dove; so delightfully innocent that we wonder who the new people are who have just taken up politics. We look

any of the legislators desirous of reform who beads it. A man of such charming character Legislature have made it the subject of investigation and analysis. Powell Clayton of Arkansas comes next, and he needs only naming. Then there is S. B. Packard of Louisiana -that's a name with a pronounced flavor; and Wm. H. Kemble of Pennsylvania, the author of "Addition, division, and silence;" and J. J. that he takes nothing except what he pays for, not even his seat in the Senate. And then Cincinnati, would they choose a candidate to please the men who invited them, or would they put such men again in places of such importance? In a word, is it to be a Convention of the Republican party, or a Convention of disreputable adventurers and worthless barroom politicians, who have been using the machinery of a great party for their private ends?

AMERICAN ELOQUENCE.

Who said that the art of oratory in America was dying out? Nothing is wanting but a great occasion to fill the halls of Congress with eloquence such as Demosthenes never aspired to and Chatham never imagined. There has been a great occasion all this week. The House of Representatives has been lashed into a storm of excitement, not perhaps over any principle of politics, or any important measure of practical legislation, but by the manufacture of issues for the next Presidential campaign and the determination of rival partisans to damage one another's personal fortunes at whatever cost to happiness and peace of the country. If eloquence is what Cicero called it, copione loquens sapientia, the great debate has surely been a remarkable illustration of the part eloquence still plays in the management of our national affairs. Randall, Blaine, Cox, and Hill have poured forth wisdom with such rich and fluent speech that the world stares at them with admiring surprise. It was perhaps on Thursday that the display of statesmanship reached its culmination of splendor. Great thoughts clad in great phrases resounded from noon till dinner time. The keen shafts of refined satire, polished as a mirror, cutting as a knife, flew from side to side, and there was such a coruscation of wit that the chamber seemed to sparkle with light and the galleries were dazded and bewildered, Whether Mr. Flaine or Mr. Cox deserve the palm for the highest sort of elequence we are at a loss to determine. Let us cull a few specimens from each, and

leave the decision to our readers. Mr. Blaine called upon Messrs. Caulfield and Harrison (who were not taking part in the debate) to stand up and answer certain questions he should put them; but their replies were not satisfactory, and this is what followed:

Mr. Caulfield-The gentleman has seen fit to call on me for my testimony in regard to the treatment of prisoners at Camp Douglas. I do not wish him to suppose, from ay silence, that I fully acquiesce in what he has said-Mr. Biaine (interrupting)-In what who has said? The entleman from Georgia or myself I

Mr. Caulfield-In what the gentleman from Maine has

Mr. Blaine (sneeringly)-Oh!

. Mr. Blaine-Will you state whether the prisoners who ame from Fort Douglas did not occupy and share the same quarters and nave exactly the same accommoda-tions as the Illinois troops had had who left Camp Mr. Caulfield-My memory on that point does not serve

[Mr. Blaine (ironically) -Oh! [Laughter.]

Mr. Harrison-You asked me a question and I have

Mr. Blaine-No, the gentleman has not answered the mestion at all, but has gone into a long rigmarole not outhing the point at issue. [Langhter.]

Mr. Harrison—The gentleman has asked a question. My silence would be an acknowledgment that he was

Mr. Harrison-No. Sir; butthe gentleman on this side of the House, from that neigh-

Mr. Jones of Kentucky, who described him-Blaine's general invitation, to give his experience as a prisoner during the war, and was caught up in this astonishing manner:

Mr. Blaine-In what fort !

cruelties at Camp Douglas.

Mr. Blaine-II will tell you if you will allow me time.
Mr. Blaine-Tell me in what fort you were.

Mr. Jones-I was not a prisoner of war, Mr. Blaine (contemptuously) -Oh! [Laughter.]

The liberality with which Mr. Blaine scattered contemptuous exclamations about the chamber was certainly amazing. Mr. Hill tried to edge in a word of explanation, and Mr. Blaine cried (contemptaoasly) "Oh non-'sense." Mr. Hill ventured another word, and Mr. Blaine (still contemptaously) ejaculated 'Oh my!" He asked Mr. Hill a question, and this charming little passage at arms oc-

curred: Mr. Hill-Will you allow me to answer! Mr. Blaine-Yes; did that relate to spies!

Mr. Hill (repeating)-Will you allow me to answer ! Mr. Blaine-No. Sir. I will not.

And it was shortly followed by this memorable encounter of wits: Mr. Hill (rising)-Will the gentleman allow me one

Throng

Mr. Blaine-Not a word. Mr. Hill (sneeringly)-Oh!!!

did succeed in getting in an answer to one of Mr. Blaine's questions, he was met by the rejoinder ("contemptuous" again, as the reporter is careful to observe), "That is paltering in a double sense;" and so Mr. Hill was ent about his business.

The contempt, however, was not confined to one side. Mr. Cox of New-York was also full of that sentiment. At an earlier stage of the debate he had been sharp, humorous, and highly effective; but on Thursday his contempt entirely overcame him. There was no room in his bosom for any other feeling than a profound and illimitable con-He was fairly sour with it. tempt. Metaphorically speaking, he soared over the angry crowd and cast upon it glances that might have withered Ben Butler. In the flesh we can imagine him reclining on the small of his back, with legs thrust far under the desk, hands exploring the bottom of his pockets, and the peculiar curve which indicates the most sickening sort of disgust sharply defined at the corners of his nose. The report before us does full justice to the weighty and witty remarks with which this great man spiced the flow of a debate in which he scorned to take further part. "Mr. Cox (contemptuously)-Go on with your talk." "Mr. Cox (in an undertone)-That is good reasoning !" "Mr. Cox-'Good for Hill!" "Mr. Cox-Oh, Blaine, dry Mr. Cox (interrupting)-The honorable hyena from

Mr. Blaine-I am not to be interrupted. Mr. Cox (as if correcting himself) -I say the honorable

other day, and I let him come in.

Mr. Blaine—Yes; but the gentleman from Pennsylvapla (Mr. Kandali) has notified me that I cannot have my time extended.

Mr. Cox (ferociously)-Well, bellow away-you are a

Here Mr. Cox brought his labors for the day to a close. We have not yet seen the report of the proceedings in The Congressional Record. It is unfortunately the practice of honorable gentlemen to submit their remarks before publication to such severe revision that a speech in The Record may be supposed to represent not what a Congressman did say, but what he wishes he had said, or what he would have said if he had thought of it. We doubt therefore if a full, true, and particular account of this model debate will be found by the future historian of American eloquence in the official publications of Congress. Luckily however for posterity, the press reporters at the Capitol are conscious of the duties which devolve upon them as impartial chroniclers. If we have done anything on our part to preserve the political and literary gems which a reckless reviser would throw away we shall feel that we have not lived altogether in vain.

OLD NEW-YORK. New-York has good cause to thank Mr. John Austin Stevens for the careful and elaborate paper in which he has reviewed the history of our city during the hundred years now drawing to a close. The address was prepared for the New-York Historical Society, and we made brief mention of it when it was read, in part, at a recent meeting of that association. We print it to-day in full. Our readers will find in it a vast amount of useful and curious information not accessible in any other publication. It is the fruit of patient and acute research which few can appreciate except those who have undertaken similar labors. Here every principal feature in the life of the metropolis is traced to its origin; and we have a picture not only of the material city of a hundred years ago, the crooked little trading port extending only from the Battery to Reade-st., but of the beginning of all the enterprises which have made it rich and famous. The buildings of the colonial and revolutionary period have almost all disappeared. There remain only Sam Fraunces's tavern on Broadst., the Walton house on Pearl-st., the Hall of Records (how few of those who pass it every day are aware that it was a jail during the British occupation), St. Paul's Chapel, the Middle Dutch Church, the Methodist Church in John-st., and a few others, most of them already doomed to speedy destruction. When they shall have been leveled with the ground the obliteration of the brick and mortar monuments of old New-York will be complete, and our sole visible mementos of the ancient time will be in the names of certain streets, and the graves in the city churchyar.'s.

Those however who laid the foundations of the commerce of New-York erected a monument which we trust will be even grander and more stable a century hence than it is to-day. How the beaver and the flour-barrel found place on the coat-of-arms of the city; how the first ship which displayed the stars and stripes in the Pacific Ocean sailed from New-York on Washington's birthday in 1784, and founded our China tea-trade; how the transatlantic packet service was built up and developed; how the banking business of New-York was begun, and in what a small and primitive way the great fire and marine insurance interests were established-these and many things which belong to the more recent history of the century will be found in Mr. Stevens's address, and it is perhaps in this part of his work that he has made the most extensive contributions to the history of our local affairs.

The manners and customs of colonial times ave often been sketched, and Mr. Stevens n kes no formal attempt to do again what otners have done so well before him. In the course of his plain and business-like story Mr. Blaine-I asked the gentleman whether he knew of however we catch pleasant glimpses of the social life and amusements of our great-grandparents. Young ladies so far forget the wrongs of their country that they stroll with the officers of George III. along the "church walk" in front of Trinity burying ground, and galself as "a friend of the gentleman from lant soldiers complain in the local Gazette of Maine," modestly offered, in response to Mr. the men who make themselves disagreeable to the fair sex by monopolizing the seats in that rustic retreat. There are theatrical entertainments by the army of occupation, and in spite of the stoppage of commerce, the great fire, and the general depression of the war period, there must have been a great deal of private hospitality, for New-York was famous from an early period for lavish living and great dinners with "dazzling display of silver plate." There were pleasure gardens on the North River and Broadway, and there was much fine company on Summer evenings at Vauxhall, which stretched along the water front from Warren-st. to Chambers. The merchants, the shipmasters, the town gossips met at coffee-houses to transact business as well hear the news, and in dull times there was great complaint that gentlemen who availed themselves of the many conveniences of those useful institutions did not always call for a cup of coffee or a glass of wine for the good of the house. Leaders of fashion,-the Kembles, Hoffmans, Setons, Ludlows, Constapublic life,-the Livingstons, Jays, Morrises, and Summer, there are only to be urged the blest, Van Hornes,-and men of mark in Lewises, Verplancks, Duanes-were frequenters uncertainty that always prevails just before Perhaps it was as well; for when Mr. Hill of the clubs, which even in the last century were famous for the luxury of their appointments, the excellence of their cuisine, and the wit, learning, sociability, and good breeding which distinguished their reunions.

We hear much of the changes which time has wrought in New-York society; but it may be doubted if the well-to-do gentlemen of 1876 are more extravagant than the gallants of that time-already becoming legendarywhich immediately preceded and followed the Revolution; and making due allowance for the increase of population and the multiplication of amusements, it may be doubted also whether the general characteristics of our social intercourse have been materially modified. Certainly there has been no change in the spirit of our people. The same ceaseless activity, the same quick perception of mercantile chances. the same far-reaching enterprise which made New-York the commercial metropolis of the new world, distinguish its inhabitants to-day and are likely to keep the city always in the van of American progress.

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

The annual trade circular of the Commercial Agency of Dun, Barlow & Co. of this city, reviewing the business results of 1875, as seen from their point of view, and showing the total amount of failures of the year, is published to-day. The number of fatlures is reported as 7,740; the total liabilities \$201,000,000. At first sight this appears to be a discouraging statement of the conditions under which the business of the country is "ness and decorum," was lucky enough to

gentleman from Maine interrupted me five times the carried on. Never before in the history of escape with five shillings. Our osteological 1857 there were only 4,932. In 1861, when the war disarranged everything, there were only 6,993. The statement for 1875 certainly looks bad. But to any one capable of turning the eye away from the storm just past and the clouds still lingering overhead, to the brightening horizon, the figures are suggestive and full of hope. They should be studied in conjunction with other figures and the record of failures since 1857. It is as follows (the reports for 1862, 1863, 1864, and 1865 being for the Northern States only):

The Northern State 85,252,000 121,056,000 228,499,000 155,239,000 It is a fact well established, and perfectly

familiar to every commercial observer, that the fury of a panic is directed first at the large banks, business houses, and manufactories. The year after its occurrence, and the year following that, the smaller houses feel the pressure of the times, and such as are too deeply in debt begin to go down. The annual number of failures continues very large, but the average liabilities are very much smaller. The reaction reaches the laboring classes last of all. Looking at the record above, the truth is seen to be illustrated. The failures in 1857 were 4,932; in the next year, 4,225; the year after the still large number of 3,913. But the average liabilities, which in 1857 were \$59,000, were in 1858 only \$22,000, and in 1859 only \$17,000. The same principle is visible in the averages for 1861 and the two following years, which were in 1861, \$29,000; in 1862 and 1863, \$16,000. The reaction of 1861 did not produce its natural fruit in a sustained number of failures for a year or two following, for the reason that an extraordinary cause interposed, the war, with its vast increase of the currency and enormous expenditures of money by the nation, and every State, county, city, and town. But eliminating the effect produced by inflation and an abundance of active capital, the natural tendency of a business reaction is seen in the figures given for the three years last cited. Now take the last three years. In 1873, the number of failures was 5,183; in 1874, it was more, namely, 5,830; in 1875, more still, 7,740. But now see the averages.

In 1873, the average liabilities were \$44,000; in 1874, \$26,000; in 1875, \$25,000. In other words, the wave of business depression has passed beyond the great houses, and is now exhausting its force on those of more limited capital, a symptom unvarying and infallible of the beginning of better days.

From these statistics alone it is evident that an immediate improvement, however subdued, can reasonably be expected in the tendency of affairs in the commercial world. It could have been wished that Mr. Wyman, the statistician of Dun, Barlow & Co.'s Agency, had devoted more attention in the Agency's present circular to this feature of the business situation. The circular, however, dealing simply with the immediate past, confines itself more exclusively to that and its lessons, leaving the causes for hope in the future to others. These may be briefly alluded to. One reason of the great number of failures in 1874 and 1875 is undoubtedly the systematic retrenchment that has taken place in public and private expenditures. This retreachment in most lines of business and in private life since 1873 has now been carried about as far as it is likely to go, and the volume of trade of the country ought now steadily to increase. The sales of the present Winter in this city indicate that the lowest limit of contraction of business has

substantially been reached. Then the crops of the year were extremely good, and the demand for them abroad excellent. Everybody knows the stimulus to business all over the country that this invariably brings. The large exportation of products of the soil since the war has been one means of enabling business to settle back to a peace basis far more gradually and safely than it otherwise would have done. The market there has been for the great staple crops of the South, for example, has enabled that section of the country to begin buying extensively again. Then there is a whisper of hope to the cotton goods trade in the increasing foreign demand. Within six months a sale of American cotton goods has begun in England and Continental Europe, a market never before open to them. Enthusiastic merchants in this city declare that "the problem of an overstocked market is solved." The telegrams

of Mr. Hathaway, Treasurer of the Border City Mills in Fall River, from England, where he was sent by the Fall River manufacturers to study the question of sending goods to England, are very satisfactory; and the reports and orders from Germany still more so.

The general reduction of public expenditures, the approach of the Centennial Exposition, with its silver promises of activity, the increasing trade with Canada, and the possibility of some renewed railroad construction this Summer, are all encouraging. Against the reasons for believing that the brighter. better days of full confidence and general activity will be brought by the coming Spring the parties are organized for a Presidential campaign, and the possibility of a foreign war. The reader can judge for kimself how slight these reasons are.

INERRIETY IN ENGLAND. If an English traveler sojourning in an Ameri-

can town should be informed that within a short period a dozen of policemen had been censured or cashiered for drankenness, we can imagine what memoranda damaging to our character for sobriety he would make, and what a figure the whole country would cut in his "Travels" when published. We do not propose to attempt any disparaging deductions from what has hanpened in Grimsby, England, a town in which most of the constabulary seem to be afflicted by oinomania. First, there was Policeman Sparrow, fined five shillings "for missing his points and being drunk." Then there was Policeman Mills, who "left his beat prema-"turely," and was "found lying drunk "and undressed in his bed;" then Sergeant Allbones (a dry name), who made a tipsy exhibition of himself "in the doorway of the "Gloucester Arms;" then Police Constable Clark, "found mad drunk on his bedroom "floor, his wife endeavoring to control him." Some of these offenders were fined 5s. and some 10s.; some were "suspended "for a week;" and some merely "admon-"ished." Sparrow, who appeared before the committee "in an unwashed and ruffled "state, and who was sent home to put

American commercial life were there 7,740 friend Allbones did not receive even a reprifailures in one year. In the dark days of mand. One town councilor loudly expressed his grief "at the low state of morals in "Grimsby;" and we rather wonder that they did not fine him for his impudence.

When Sir Wilfrid Lawson gets upon his

legs in the House of Commons and states

facts like these, no wonder that he is

listened to and secures votes for his

bills. Prohibitionists in this country use the nine digits and the cipher with facts. And first it would be well to look at prodigious effect, but in England the statistics of swipes are still more harrowing. It is upon the authority of the Government that we are informed that in 1874 no fewer than 285,730 Britons were proceeded against for being drunk and disorderly, or drunk and not disorderly, an increase of 131,870 since 1870. This being the number of drunkards prosecuted, there must be added to it those who escaped arrest. Mr. Granville, one of the Secretaries of the Church of England Society in the Diocese of Durham, says: "Reckoning the licenses of victualing and refreshment houses to have reached this year "about 175,000, and that for each house we "have not less than four habitual drunkards, we "arrive at an aggregate for England of "habitual drunkards of 700,000." Alliance News says: "It is a melancholy but undeniable fact, that notwithstanding 'vast agencies of improvement, intemperance, "crime, pauperism, insanity, and brutality are 'more rampant than ever; and, if we except pauperism, these evils have more than "doubled during the last 40 years." These are not like the loose statements of temperance orators, who tell you of a million of victims killed annually by drinking. They are the carefully prepared conclusions of public officers, sustained by the reports of jailers and courts and pauper commissioners; and even if there is a little exaggeration or inaccuracy, the case is still an extremely bad one.

In this country public drunkenness has been kept under by constant and enthusiastic agitation against it, and though it has by no means been eradicated it has been made thoroughly disreputable, while the number of those who entirely abstain from the use of intoxicating drinks has been wonderfully enhanced. The same result will undoubtedly be reached in time in England, and this is about what the temperance reformation will effect in either country. The philanthropists who have this work in hand need not expect that drink selling and drink abuse will entirely disappear. They ought to be contented if they succeed in placing sobriety among the practically respected virtues of society. Perhaps to secure this they must work for much more, accomplishing the practicable by aiming at the impracticable. At any rate this has been their fortune in the past, if it is not to be in the future. They have failed, but in every failure there has been a victory.

We have received a genial dispatch from the Hon. amuel S. Cox assuring us that he did not tamper with the Associated Press report of his recent witty peech against Mr. Blaine, but carefully omitting to explain just what he did with the report in The Congressional Record. In fact the dispatch is almost as ingeniously constructed in that regard as was Mr. Cox's letter in The Cincinnati Enquirer protesting against the attacks on the Ohio soft-money platform, or his letter to the Editor of THE TRIBUNE, protesting against being suspected of having any sympathy with that soft-money platform. We have also received the following:

form. We have also received the following.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sm: The Thirdneys's inference that the Hon. S. S. Cox tampered with our report of his speech in reply to Mr. Islame, is erroneous, and it is unjust both to the former and to one of our most rathful reporters. Mr. Blaine's remarks was evidently misapprehended. He referred to the report in The Congressional Record. Mr. Cox did not revise our report; nor is any speaker ever permitted to do so. Very respectfully.

J. W. SIMONTON.

New York, Jan. 14, 1876. General Agent.

Mr. Simonton is mistaken. We have had positive knowledge of at least one interpolation in an Associated Press report, made by Mr. Cox himself. But it was a good while ago; and we gladly accept Mr. Simonton's assurance that he permits nothing of the sort now. It is a point on which he cannot be too cautious, and on which he will find the average Congressman, (whose wit is always more spontaneous when the debate is over and I plenty of time to think it out) uncommonly persistent and ingenious. The fact in the present case seems to be that Mr. Blaine charged Mr. Cox with making one speech in the House and another in the oficial report,-not the Associated Press report, as we erroneously understood. We have been ready, for some time, to print Mr. Cox's explanation of his hard-money etter to us and simultaneous soft-money letter West. We shall next be glad to print his explana tion of what he did to this speech of his in the official report. We observe that The Evening Post correspondout describes Mr. Hill's transgressions in the same particular as something extraordinary. There is no more disgusting piece of dishonesty about Washingon than this tampering with the record of debate. What we want in a report is what the speaker said, not what, some hours or even days afterward, he wishes he had said.

* PERSONAL.

Col. Mapleson, Director of Her Majesty's Opera, London, arrived yesterday in this city. The health of the Rev. John W. Olmstead, D. D., of The Boston Watchman is so far impaired that he is obliged to spend the Winter at the South.

Mr. Gladstone is said to be contemplating spending a larger portion of every year in the country hereafter, and for that reason has resigned his member-ship of the Referm Ulub. Victor Hugo is soon to publish two new

works—a volume of verse entitled "Les Justes Coleris," which is a continuation of "L'Année Terrible," and a prose work called "L'Art d'Etre Grand-Fere." A number of personal friends of the late Gen. Francia P. Blair have ordered of J. Wilson McDon-

ald of this city a colossal bronze bust of him, which will be placed in one of the public parks of St. Louis. Mr. William Cullen Bryant and Gen. James Grant Wilson of this city are on the American Committee with Mr. Longfellow and Mr. Winthrop for receiving sub-scriptions for the London Hyron memorial. The Com-mittee have received already \$500.

The Rev. James Freer on Clarke has been pastor of the Church of ta. sciples in Boston for 35 years. On Wednesday evening the metabors of the church presented the trustees with a fine pointait of the postor, to be held by them in perpetual trust. The cost was about \$1,000.

Spinoza is to have a statue at Amsterdam, where he was born in 1631, and died in 1677. Berabeld

Anerbach and a number of German philosophers have been constited by the committee, and it is proposed to organize a series of rifes, and to hold an exhibition of all the known editions of opinoza's works. The Roman correspondent of The London Daily News telegraphs under date of Dec. 31: "An accomplished Italian interateur writes to me from Spezia:

'Renewed inquiry convinces me that the recent story re-garding Shelley's death is a pure fabrication. I consulted the nepnew of the paster of San Ferchzo, to whom the pretended confessions were made, as well as other priests, and their answers confirm the belief of all San Terenzo that Shelley's death was caused in the manner hitherto described." Prof. W. D. Whitney of Yale College has written a letter to The London Academy in reply to the statements of Prof. Max Miller in his last volume of

"Chips." In cleang Prof. Whitney says: "I will take the liberty of adding that I am ready to submit Mr. Müller's twenty points, 'principal bones of contention between us,' to the judgment of his personal friends, instead of mine, if he can find three who are willing to take them fade consideration; I should only in that case expect to be allowed to present a brief in court." Washington ladies evidently do not allow the

hard times to interfere with their desire for dress, for The Star says of them : " It is universally the subject of remark that the dressing this season is more magnificent than has ever been the case before in Washington. In-dividual instances may be cited of toilets heretofore seen "himself more in harmony with official neat-